



Tapu'itea

...ina ia manino le folauga.

Friday
May 26,
2006

OFFICIAL AMERICAN SAMOA GOVERNMENT WEEKLY NEWSLETTER Vol. I, No. 10

Governor Togiola says U.S. House Interior Committee expects AS congressman to offer briefing on both sides of Utulei Beach Park issue

Governor Togiola Tulafono today issued a statement in regards to the language of the recent U.S. House Interior Committee report urging greater accountability of ASG funds awarded to ASG, which includes discouraging the commercial development of Utulei Beach, and the Committee position "because this site has such high recreational and natural values, and it has enjoyed funding from the Land and Water Conservation Fund Program which indicates that this park land should be dedicated to public outdoor recreational use in perpetuity."

The following is the official statement of Governor Togiola Tulafono:

"The report did, indeed, contain language that was negative towards the McDonald's use of Utulei Beach. The staff of this committee was given these negative comments by our Congressman as a complete summary of the issues involved.

The reasons for any alternate opinions were never offered to them by our Delegate to Congress. However, the committee staff, expect the Congressional representative of the Territory to brief them on both sides of any issue. But our Delegate Eni only disclosed the views he agreed with, giving the committee the impression that there were no other judgments supporting the proposed project.

This lack of professionalism in failing to see to it that Congressional committees are briefed on both sides of any issue, indicates that we have a Delegate that has been in Congress too long now, and has lost respect for his job, and has become a law unto himself, feeling free to manipulate as if his position in Congress is all about his own personal views.

A Congressman has every right to express his own opinion, but only after he has fairly presented the issues on both sides of any proposal to the Committees responsible for our well being. The Committees depend on this even handed information. Our Congressman does not do this anymore. Familiarity has bred contempt for his responsibilities. He makes it clear, with every passing month, that it is time for him to retire. He has been in Congress for so many decades now, it is apparent that he feels his job is all about himself, and his thoughts and his needs, and his own benefits. Our people, with all our varied and often robust and conflicting ideas, are not being served by a professional anymore. Eni should think of retiring, and hopefully soon."

Governor Togiola Tulafono discusses UN decolonization Committee Pacific Seminar and shipping and trade possibilities with Tokelau

Governor Togiola Tulafono today said the American Samoa Government awaits information from the United Nations Decolonization Committee Pacific Seminar that is to convene this week in Dili, Timor-Leste, formerly East Timor, Indonesia.

The UN Decolonization Committee, formally known as the "Special Committee on the Situation with Regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples," holds an annual seminar to assess the situation in Non-Self-Governing Territories and "their constitutional evolution towards self government and self-determination."

Governor Togiola said he was not sure if the meeting this week was going through or not because he had been waiting for a final agenda, as there were some concerns that needed to be ironed out with the Timor government, before it would proceed, according to the notice sent to him about the Pacific Regional Seminar in Dili, Timor-Leste, as it is called now.

"There were concerns earlier by the Committee in regards to reduced resources and arrangements being reassessed due to budgetary constraints," said Governor Togiola.

(Continued on page 2)

HISTORICAL NOTES

By: Stan Sorensen, Historian, Office of the Governor

On May 21, 1908, Captain John F. Parker, U.S. Navy (Retired) relieved Commander Charles Brainard Taylor Moore, and became American Samoa's sixth naval governor (until November 10, 1910).

On May 22, 1875, Malietoa Laupepa became "King" of Samoa under the new constitution, and Albert Barnes Steinberger was appointed Premier.

On May 22, 1901, on Tutuila, the U.S. Government purchased "Parcel No. 14: Milo Milo," totalling 0.29 acres, from the Paul H. Krause Estate for \$2,104.15.

On May 22, 1915, the tugboat USS *Fortune* became the U.S. Naval Station Tutuila's station ship until 1925.

On May 22, 1938, Pan American Airways' Frank McKenzie, "who had been in charge of building the bases at Wake and Midway in 1935, was given the task of surveying Canton Island [in the Phoenix Islands] for Pan Am...He departed Pago Pago Harbor aboard the U.S.S. Ontario, a coal-burning tug stationed in American Samoa, for the three-day trip to Canton Island."

On May 22, 1960, a *tsunami* ("tidal wave"), "resulting from the earthquakes in South America", reached American Samoa. "The tidal wave reached Pago Pago at approximately 8:15 p.m.--about 2 hours after having received the first alert from Honolulu." The wave damaged Poyer School and two private houses. "Fortunately, the wave arrived at the falling tide; otherwise the damage would have been greater. It was estimated that the height of the wave was about 8 feet."

On May 23, 1980, Public Law 16-55, which established American Samoa's Department of Parks and Recreation, became effective. Governor Peter Tali Coleman appointed High Talking Chief Fuga Tolani Teleso, a 20-year US Army veteran (Korean War and Vietnam War) who had coached the Army's golf team and had supervised the construction of the Lavalava Golf Course (later renamed the 'Ili'i Golf Course) as the DPR's first director.

On May 24, 1900, Governor Benjamin Tilley issued his Regulation No. 8: "Provision Regulation Concerning the Sale of Spiritous and Fermented Liquor."

On May 24, 1901, Commander Benjamin Franklin Tilley, Commandant of the U.S. Naval Station Tutuila, issued his "Regulation No. 4-1901: Registration of Deeds" and his "Regulation No. 5-1901: Registration of Mortgages, Bills of Sale, Etc., of Personal Property."

On May 24, 1944, the second USS *Tutuila* (ARG-4) completed her shakedown cruise at Hampton Roads, Virginia, sailed through the Panama Canal and thence to the South Pacific, where she served at Purvis Bay in the Solomon Islands, and then participated in the allied advance to the Philippines.

On May 24, 1945, the second USS *Tutuila* (ARG-4) arrived at the island of Leyte in the Philippines "and provided repair services there to a wide variety of ships and smaller craft from the date of her arrival until the end of hostilities."

On May 24, 1961, President John F. Kennedy appointed Hyrum Rex Lee, a veteran administrator in the Department of the Interior's Bureau of Indian Affairs, as American Samoa's seventh appointed civil governor (until July 31, 1967), succeeding Governor Peter Tali Coleman, who was the Territory's only appointed Samoan governor. Lee's first term was the longest of any of American Samoa's governors (civil or naval), and he served an additional half-year term (May 28, 1977-January 3, 1978), thus becoming the longest-serving appointed civil governor, and the only appointed civil governor to serve two non consecutive terms.

UN decolonization Committee

(continued from page 1)

"I was very interested in reviewing the progress in how the Committee plan was being implemented and offer our input."

On another matter, Governor Togiola also talked about shipping and trade links between Tokelau and American Samoa.

"Trade is very much on our minds and something to be discussed between American Samoa and Tokelau," said Governor Togiola. "We have assets that can support such a venture, and could very well inspire the some serious trade. I do believe there are mutual benefits we can realize from trading with the Tokelau government. Not only that, many of our own residents have roots in the Tokelau islands, and this can give them an opportunity once again to visit the islands, or even become part of the trading themselves."

Governor Togiola said ASG is going to continue discussions regarding shipping and trade with Tokelau.

"We will definitely have discussions, but first I hope to be able to travel to Swains island to review the possibility of a landing strip there and a wharf. If at all possible, I might then continue on to the Tokelau Islands to continue these discussions and take a look at their infrastructure so I can have a better grasp of the situation in order to formulate my own thoughts about these matters. I hope it will be some time soon and before hurricane season."

UN Pacific Regional Seminar in Timor-Leste has been postponed to August

(UTULEI) – Governor Togiola Tulafono announced today that he received word yesterday of the postponement of the United Nations Pacific Decolonization Seminar in Dili, Timor-Leste, formerly East Timor, Indonesia.

The message sent on behalf of Ambassador Julian R. Hunte (St. Lucia), Chairman of the Committee of 24, to all participants, and received by the Office of the Governor, reads:

"Dear Seminar Participant:

The purpose of this communication is to advise you of the delay in convening the Pacific Regional Seminar on Decolonisation, originally scheduled for 23rd to 25th May 2006 in Timor Leste.

The governments of the Special Committee on Decolonisation were fully prepared to travel to the session as originally planned, having received the assurances from the Government of Timor-Leste that preparations were in place for the session.

Notwithstanding these assurances, it was recommended by the United Nations Secretariat that the seminar be delayed pending a briefing by the Secretary-General of the United Nations in early June on the situation in the host country.

After deliberations, the Bureau of the Special Committee reluctantly agreed to defer the convening of the session for a date certain in August. The venue will remain Timor Leste.

The new dates for the seminar will be transmitted to you as soon as we have completed our discussions with the host government on the most suitable time in August.

Sergei Cherniavsky
Secretary
Special Committee of 24"

Governor Togiola responds to President Lolo's disappointment of not being invited to DOI-sponsored Investment Business Opportunities Mission

(UTULEI) - Governor Togiola Tulafono has responded to media inquiries in regards to Senate President Lolo M. Moliga's "disappointment" that the Executive Branch did not extend an invitation to him to attend the recent Department of the Interior (DOI)-sponsored Investment Business Opportunities Mission so he could hear directly from the business delegates of their needs and any recommendations to help the local economy.

The following is the official statement from Governor Togiola Tulafono:

"I really do not know for sure who sent out the invitations to our government leaders or the business community. I received my invitation from the Department of the Interior to attend the mission on opening day, and to provide remarks. I did. I saw speaker Matagi Ray Mailo McMoore at the opening, and if I recall correctly, he acknowledged receiving an invitation from DOI to attend the opening of the mission. So, I really have no answer if there is any validity to the claim of the president.

As for meeting and hearing directly from the business delegates of their needs and any recommendations to help the local economy, I agree that the president, as one of the leaders of the legislature, should be invited to these types of events. And I believe what I was told that the president was invited. Speaker Matagi McMoore attended the opening ceremony as well as my reception on Monday night. As for the appointments to see members of the mission, my office made those arrangements through the organizers of the mission from DOI. Some of the businesses asked to meet with me, and I met with them on Tuesday morning. The mission was here for four days. I do not recall ever receiving any requests from the president indicating his desire to meet with DOI officials or any member of the mission. I cannot speak for the DOI staff who organized the mission, if they received any requests from President Lolo. There were plenty of opportunities to correct the situation, even if there were some miscommunication at first.

Frankly, if the president was interested he could have just as easily contacted me or the DOI organizing staff to arrange meetings with anyone he wished. I think the president is just trying to make excuses for his obvious lack of real interest.

Notice of Intent to Adopt or Amend Rules

Pursuant to American Samoa Code Annotated (ASCA) 4.1001 ct seq., the Development Bank of American Samoa (DBAS) intends to adopt or amend its Board Bylaws, Loan Manual, Collection Manual and Personnel Manual. Interested members of the public may review these documents and/or present their written comments on the same at the DBAS CEO's office located at the DBAS Building at Pago Pago, American Samoa from May 8, 2006 until June 2, 2006. DBAS is normally open for business Monday to Friday, 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. For further information, please contact Ms. Mary Malauulu at telephone number (684)633-4031.

Share important activities

with our ASG workforce as well as the citizens of American Samoa.

Email your articles, announcements, pictures or other information to:

tapuitea@amsamoa.gov.as

Deadline for submissions is Thursday @ noon.

contact Harry Stevens @733-1694

or

Vince Iuli @ 258-1041

ASG RADIO PROGRAM

with:

**Governor Togiola Tulafono
Saturdays @ 7a.m.**

on:

**Showers of Blessings-FM
104.7**

Call 699-8123 or 699-8124

PUBLIC NOTICE

REQUEST FOR COMMENTS ON THE PROPOSED MALAEIMI VALLEY SPECIAL MANAGEMENT AREA

American Samoa Environmental Protection Agency "Protecting the Environment for Better Health"

The American Samoa Environmental Protection Agency has completed a proposal to the Project Notification and Review System Board (PNRS) to designate Malaeimi Valley as a Special Management Area (SMA). Malaeimi Valley is extremely important to the future of American Samoa because it provides the greatest recharge area to our ground water supply. Maintaining the most available recharge area is vital for ASPA to continually supply clean drinking water. We must take action now to protect our drinking water for the future of our island and our people. The SMA Proposal for Malaeimi Valley is available for public review and written comments will be accepted until June 28, 2006 at 4pm. Two public forums will be held where we can learn more about the SMA proposal, why Malaeimi Valley and its resources are so important, and the PNRS Board.

FORUM 1	FORUM 2
Where: Convention Center When: May 31, 2006 at 10AM-12PM	Where: ASCC Auditorium When: June 7, 2006 at 4-6PM

For more detailed information, contact either:

Kris McPhee

Tel: 633-2304

ASEPA

PO Box PPA

Pago Pago, AS 96799

Steve Frano

Tel: 633-5155

Department of Commerce

Executive Office Building- 2nd Floor

Pago Pago, AS 96799

FA'ASILASILAGA FA'ALAU'ITELE

Talosaga mo ni Manatu Fa'asoa e Fa'atatau i le

Vanu i Malae'imi E Avea Ma Nofoaga Fa'apitoa

Ua mae'a ona tusia se talosaga e le Matagaluega o le Si'osi'omaga i Amerika Samoa (ASEPA) e aveai ai le vanu i Malae'imi ma nofoaga fa'apitoa. O lenei talosaga ua uma ona tu'u atu i le komiti o lo'o iloilo ina pemitia mo atina'e (PNRS) i totonu o le teritori. O le vanu i Malae'imi e taua tele i le lumana'i o Amerika Samoa. O timuga e to'ulu i lea vanu e tafe aga'i atu i Tafuna ma toe fa'atutumu ai fa'atanoa vai oi le manava o le 'ele'ele o lo'o pamu mai ai e le ASPA le suavai. O le tausia o lenei vanu e taua tele pe 'a fai o le a tumau le tatou naunau ina ia mama ma saogalemu le suavai taumafa o lo'o pamu mai e le ASPA. Ua tatau nei loa ona tatou galulue ma taumafai e puipui le tatou suavai taumafa aua le lumana'i o tatou tagata ae maise le tatou atunu'u. O le tusitusiga mo le aveai o le vanu i Malae'imi ma nofoaga fa'apitoa o lo'o maua nei mo le silafia a le atunu'u. E mafai ona fa'ao'o atu manatu tusitusia ae le'i o'o ia luni 28, 2006 i le itula e 4:00 i le afiafi. E lua ni fonotaga ma le mamalu o le atunu'u ua fuafuaina mo le silafia e tusa ai ma le talosaga mo nofoaga fa'apitoa; pe aisea e taua ai le alamanuia o lo'o maua i totonu o le vanu i Malae'imi, ma le komiti o lo'o iloilo ina pemitia mo atina'e e fa'atinoina i totonu o Amerika Samoa.

FONOTAGA MUAMUA	FONOTAGA LONA LUA
Faia i le Convention Center ia Me 31, 2006 i le 10-12 Aoauli	Faia i le Kolisi Tuufaataasi i Amerika Samoa (ASCC) ia luni 7, 2006 i le 4-6 Afiafi

Mo nisi faamatalaga au'ili'ili, faamolemole faafesootai mai

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Email your name, department, current email address and the new email address you want to: tapuitea@amsamoa.gov.as

Share important activities

with our ASG workforce as well as the citizens of American Samoa.

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The Malaeimi Valley is a 961-acre basin located north of the Tafuna-Leone plain. The proposed Special Management Area begins along the main road and extends behind ACE Hardware and the LDS Malaeimi Stake Center with Tuasivitasi Ridge as the western boundary, the ridgeline from Tau Mountain to Leele Mountain as the eastern boundary, and the ridge from Leele to Taumata Mountains as the northern boundary.

Future land development in Malaeimi Valley could reduce the amount of available groundwater and diminish the quality of the water supply. The designation of Malaeimi Valley as a Special Management Area is a way to ensure the protection of our drinking water for the future. As a SMA, the PNRS board will use reasonable development criteria to help reduce the impact of future land development upon the water resources of Malaeimi Valley.

The SMA Proposal for Malaeimi Valley is available for public review and written comments will be accepted until June 28, 2006 at 4pm. Two public forums will be held where we can learn more about the SMA proposal, why Malaeimi Valley and its resources are so important, and the PNRS Board. The first forum will be held at the Convention Center on May 31, 2006 from 10am to 12pm, and the second will be at the American Samoa Community College (someplace specific) on June 7, 2006 from 4pm to 6pm.

To review the proposal, submit comments, or for more information please contact Kris McPhee at the American Samoa Environmental Protection Agency, PO Box PPA, Pago Pago, American Samoa 96799 or Steve Frano at the Department of Commerce, Executive Office Building 2nd Floor, Pago Pago, American Samoa 96799.